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PATENT, TRADEMARK
AND COPYRIGHT LAW

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Date: February 26, 2002

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Attorney Docket No. NIP-261



To: Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir: Transmitted herewith for filing is the patent application of:

Inventor: Y. TAKEZAWA et al (See Attached List)

For:
**METHOD AND APPARATUS OF DIAGNOSING
DETERIORATION OF AN ARTICLE**

Enclosed are:



10 Sheets of Drawings

This application is being filed without an executed Declaration.



Priority is claimed from Japanese Application No. 2001-197654
filed June 29, 2001. A certified copy is attached herewith.



Copies of the disclosure documents listed on the attached PTO 1449 form and
 discussed in the specification or attached Information Disclosure Statement.



A verified statement to establish small entity status under 37 CFR 1.9 and 1.27.



Specification: Abstract , Description 36 pages; and 9 claim(s).



Preliminary Amendment.



Executed Declaration.

The filing fee is calculated as shown below:

Small Entity

Large Entity

For:	No. Filed	No. Extra
Basic Fee		
Total Claims	9 -20 = * 0	
Indep Claims	5 - 3 = * 2	
<input type="checkbox"/> Multiple Dependent Claim (s)		

* If difference is less than zero
then enter '0' in second column

Rate	Fee
\$ 370	
x 9	\$
x 42	\$
+ 140	\$
Total	\$

OR

Rate	Fee
\$ 740	
x 18	\$ 0
x 84	\$ 168
+ 280	\$ 0
Total	\$ 908



A check in the amount of \$ 908.00 is enclosed for the filing fee.



The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees that may be required to
Deposit Account No. 50-1417.

Respectfully Submitted,

By:

John R. Mattingly
Registration No. 30,293